GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3623
ANSWERED ON:05.08.2014
REVISION IN PENSION AMOUNT
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Will the Minister of SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether any mechanism exists for revision of the pension amount provided to the old aged, helpless persons, widows and disabled under various schemes in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) the number of times the amount of pension had been revised during 2009-14 along with the increase after each revision; and

(d) the steps being taken by the Government to raise the pension amount with the rise in inflation?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a) & (b) At present there is no mechanism for revision of pension amount under the scheme of National Social Assistance Programme (NSAP) which is being implemented by Ministry of Rural Development.

National Social Assistance (NSAP) is a social security programme which comprises three pension schemes viz., Indira Gandhi National Old Age Pension Scheme (IGNOAPS), Indira Gandhi National Widow Pension Scheme (IGNWPS) and Indira Gandhi National Disability Pension Scheme (IGNDPS) for old aged, widow and disabled persons respectively belonging to Below Poverty Line(BPL) households in both rural and urban areas.

(c) The details of revision in the amount of pension under the schemes of NSAP during 2009-2014 are given below:-

Under IGNOAPS, the rate of pension has been increased from Rs.200/- per month to Rs.500/- per month for beneficiaries of 80 years and above w.e.f. 1st April, 2011.

Under IGNWPS, the rate of pension has been increased from Rs.200/- per month to Rs.300/- per month w.e.f. 1st October, 2012.

Under IGNDPS, the rate of pension has been increased from Rs.200/- per month to Rs.300/- per month w.e.f. 1st October, 2012.

(d) A Task Force constituted by the Ministry of Rural Development under the Chairmanship of Member, Planning Commission, considered all the issues, demands and suggestions relating to social assistance/security, received from various quarters and submitted its report in March, 2013, inter-alia, recommending expanding the scope of coverage and increasing the quantum of pension. Further action has been initiated to process the recommendations of the Task Force.